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# AVIATION

*The Oldest American Aeronautical Magazine*

JUNE 25, 1928

Issued Weekly

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A three engine (Ford) Maddux air liner over Santa Clara Valley, Calif.

VOLUME  
XXIV

## *Special Features*

NUMBER  
26

The Bird Wing "Imperial"  
The Wright "Cyclone" Engine  
Assembly Methods in the Stearman Factory

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# AVIATION

The Oldest American Aeronautical Magazine

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## Airplane Radio Progress

TO PRAISE any one member of the crew of the "Southern Cross" is to praise all four, for each was equally instrumental in making that aerial voyage such a great success. Altogether it was a splendid demonstration of piloting and navigating ability, and it will undoubtedly be entered in aeronautical records as one of the greatest airplane flights ever achieved by man.

However, from the standpoint of the development of over water flying, the most gratifying feature of the trip of the Southern Cross was not that a new over water distance record was established, or that a new air route was blazed. It was the fact that through the aid of radio the crew of that plane was in communication with the civilized world for practically every day of its trip.

It goes without saying that radio will be standard equipment on all long distance planes of the future. For trans-oceanic liners, trans-oceanic planes will make their trips according to a schedule and will announce their position and their position at all times. In case of a forced landing at sea it will be the radio that will summon assistance. In short, radio is a plane's most useful addition, it is an essential part of the plane's equipment if the safety factor is to be raised to the maximum. The value of radio on planes has been demonstrated many times and the members of the radio industry who are lending their efforts toward the improvement of suitable airplane radio equipment are rightly deserving of the encouragement and cooperation of the entire aeronautical industry.

## Profit by Failure

SCIENCE IS supposed to deal with facts and there it should not fall into the common error of emphasizing that which accords and minimizing that which is a failure. Yet, in the reports of most of our wind tunnel and aerodynamic laboratories we read only of successful results. Much of the work that is done is worth mention in so far as the industry's experience because it does not contain results which can be applied in practice. These negative results, however, may be of as much value to engineers as positive results. They might not only prevent the duplication of work which would necessarily be in dollars, but also suggest positive lines or ways of overcoming the difficulties that have been encountered.

As far as the manufacture and operation of aircraft are concerned it would be of considerable value if we

could learn of some of the real reasons for failures. At present, news of failures is spread by magazine group of competitors. In many cases it would pay to frankly admit mistakes or difficulties and to show how they had been overcome rather than have the stories strewn in an underhand manner. The idea was constant in the minds of many that the only real way to boost aviation is to never admit difficulties in carrying things too far. After all, for one to admit that there are difficulties does not mean that that person considers them insurmountable.

## The Bunkum Artist

THE FLOOD tide of enthusiasm which has been sweeping aeronautics forward has also carried forward in its wake the untidy crowd of rascals who prey upon a gullible public. The frauds perpetrated range all the way from the sale of membership in so-called "Society" to the sale of stock in aeronautical ventures which are either actually non-existent or so badly planned that they cannot succeed. The enterprises are being run by very plausible gentlemen who can make a great deal of plausible talk, and how they have been turned to aeronautics for purely altruistic reasons. There is no positive way to identify these gentlemen but on the whole they avoid contact and association with those who are actively engaged in aeronautics, and especially with those who have been on the business for a considerable length of time and so could know their part history.

Investigating the activities of this crew and getting the goods on them takes a long time, and it often damages work on account of the possibilities of libel suits. Unless their names become too flagrantly fraudulent the average man engaged in aeronautics is apt to steer clear of any contact with them. There are, however, ways in which those firms who really know about fraudulent activities can get them investigated without too much trouble to themselves. Besides the Chambers of Commerce and Better Business Bureaus there is the daily press. At present as it is times past the press is known to investigate fraudulent actions and to publish the results if the fraud can be verified. The average aeronautical reporter is enthusiastic and active and wishes to push his section of the paper. If those in your community who are enthusiastic about aviation are being preyed upon take the matter up with a reporter. He may be able to write up a story on it which will undoubtedly spoil the business of the bunkum artist. This sort of thing has been done before and therefore can be done again.

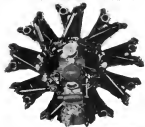
# The Wright "Cyclone" Engine

Model R-1750 is a Nine Cylinder Air Cooled Radial Designed for Heavy Duty and is Rated at 525 Hp. at 1900 R.P.M.

**A**FTER A number of years of development work and experimentation with large air cooled radial engines, the Wright Aeronautical Corp., Paterson, N. J., is starting production on the Wright "Cyclone", a new cylinder air cooled radial rated at 525 hp. at 1900 r.p.m. This engine was developed by the Wright Aeronautical Corp. in cooperation with the Bureau of Aeronautics of the U. S. Navy. The first production order is for 145 of these engines for the Navy Department and it is understood that a number will also be produced for the Army Air Corps. Production facilities are being rapidly increased at the Wright plant to take care of these government orders and the Wright company expects to manufacture a small surplus for commercial sale. These will be available approximately by November of this year. Great interest has been exhibited by a number of leading aircraft manufacturers who indicate that a number of new designs around this engine are being made and that these planes will be in the air some time in 1935.

A number of experimental engines of this type have already been produced and have been flown in an efficient type of planes, including the Wright XO-3 observation plane, the Keystone Army S-416 "Pardner" bomber, the Douglas T-21 twin engine trainer, the Martin T-303 biplane the Douglas P-21 twin engine fighter, and the Navy FN-12, which a short time ago established four world records for airplanes. It is understood that the new engine is being tested and developed by the Hottel-Thomson Aeronautical Corp. of Buffalo, N. Y., and will use the same design.

Model R-1750, as the "Cyclone" is officially designated, is a



Front view of the "Cyclone" showing the nine cylinders and connecting mechanism.



Front quarter view of the Wright "Cyclone" R-1750 engine.

front quarter view of the Wright "Cyclone" R-1750 engine. The engine was developed from the model P-2, one of the first radial engines with a horizontal, gear-driven supercharger. This engine was the ancestor of the Wright P-1, the development of which was started in 1925 after the acquisition of the interests of the Lawrence Aero Engine Corp. by the Wright Aeronautical Corp. Before that time the Wright company had started work on large air cooled radials with the first attempt of the R-1 in 1920.

The R-1750 is a nine cylinder radial designed for heavy duty in the field where radial engines are now used. It is a bore of 6 in. and stroke of 7 1/2 in. giving a piston displacement of 1750 cu. in. The compression ratio is 2 to 1 and the rated speed is 1900 r.p.m. At this speed the engine actually develops 540 h.p. though the guaranteed power is 525 h.p. On test, the engine has developed maximum power of 590 hp. The average weight of these engines is 1500 lb. giving a specific weight of 3.45 lb. per rated hp. It has an overall diameter of 21 1/2 in. and an approximate length of 40 1/2 in.

In appearance, the Cyclone resembles the Wright P-1 of World War I, and many of the details of construction are identical, though some are larger. The Cyclone, of course, is much more modern design and incorporates many improvements not in the World War I radial. The Cyclone and valve arrangement is almost identical with the P-1, but the valve gear and connecting mechanism are entirely new. The valve gear and push rods in front. The cylinder head is a steel casting with machined face. Screwed and drilled into this is the cylinder head. It is a Y shaped casting with

putting a dome shaped combustion chamber with the two ports, each such dome-shaped chamber is a horizontal plate, one in front and one in the rear. At the right side of the head, looking forward, is the intake port and opposite a 180-degree port. As mentioned above, these ports lead to a valve in the head. Struck into the cylinder head are the intake valve seats for the intake type intake and exhaust valves of high temperature resisting alloy steel. The stem of the exhaust valve is larger than that of the intake valve, so it is not cooled. The valve mechanism is exactly like that of the P-1, of course enlarged. The valves are supported by a cast aluminum alloy but are attached to the cylinder head by three studs. The bearings are lubricated by means of Alkoxide fittings. The roller areas have roller followers in contact with valve stems and are actuated by push rods housed in an aluminum tube.

## Views of "Waffle" Head Type

Sheet Y alloy plates are used. They are of the "waffle" head type, that is, there are ribs in the head running in both directions. There are three grooves in the sides of the plates for the oil pump trough, of the narrow type, two in each groove. A combination of oil scraper and compression rings is used in each groove. Full floating wrist pins operate in known bearings inserted in the connecting rods. These connecting rods are of Al alloy and, as is usual in Wright engines, they are alloy steel forgings. The master rod is of Al alloy with the cross pin bearing lubricated. The wrist pins are located in the master rod in an original manner. There are eight knuckle pins and they are locked in the master rod in pairs. Each adjacent pair is held in place by a lag over the end of the pin. This lag is held in the master rod. Two lags are used for each pair of adjacent knuckle pins, one lag on each side.

The crankshaft is of two piece type with the crank pin, front cheek, and propeller drive integral. The propeller shaft is splined and tapered, providing for the drawing and unloading of the propeller shaft. The rear crank is split and is clamped to the crank pin by a large bolt. Mounted on the



Close-up view of the valve mechanism on the R-1750 "Cyclone" engine.

rear crank cheek is a large roller bearing with the main bearing in front, so it is of the plain ball-bearing type. The front roller bearing is a deep groove ball bearing.

On the rear roller bearing is supported on the crankshaft pin. The crankshaft is a one piece casting of aluminum alloy. Bolted to the front of this is what is called the "waffle" head. This houses the cross pin and carries the main bearing and roller support guide. A double track arm is fitted between a rear gear on the front of the crankshaft and the main bearing and the thrust bearing. The arm delivers an oil Y alloy while the cross pin is an Al alloy forged with machined main lobes and internal

gears. The valve tappets are similar to those on other Wright engines and have roller followers. Related to the rear of the crankshaft is the General Electric Co. centrifugal supercharger driven at 65 times crankshaft speed by gears on a long shaft fixed attached to the main shaft of the crankshaft. This drives a counter shaft above the



View of the supercharger drive gears on the R-1750 "Cyclone" engine.

center line of the engine. On this counter shaft is a pinion engaging three gears, one bevel gear driving the generator, one pinion to the main accessory drive, and one large gear driving a pinion on a hollow shaft on which the impeller is keyed. On the back of the main accessory drive is a pinion gear which drives two other shafts, the top ends of which are arranged the main supercharger drive. At the bottom are two bevel gears, the one on the left is connected to the oil pump and the one on the right is connected to the fuel pump.

The oil pump consists of a double vane pump and one pressure pump. Intended oil line is the center of the crankshaft from the pressure pump to the front main bearing, from which oil under pressure, passes through a tube in the crankshaft to the knuckle pin. The cylinders and wrist pins are lubricated by spray. The oil pump runs at 1/10 times crankshaft speed and at normal speed pumps 25 lb. of oil a minute at 1000 r.p.m. in per in. The pressure of oil consumption is 100 lb. per sq. in. per hr. The fuel pump operates at a pressure of 2 to 4 lb. per sq. in. One Stromberg double barrel SA 77A carburetor is used, it feeds gasoline to the center of the impeller from where it is driven out radially by centrifugal force to the manifold leading to the cylinders.

The ignition system is almost identical to that on the P-1 engine. Two Hamilton V-AD 50 magnetos are used, driven at 1/10 times crankshaft speed. R.G. spark plugs with 800 in. gap are standard equipment. The spark occurs, in crankshaft degrees, at 30 deg. before top dead center. Provision is made on the rear of the engine for the mounting of any standard type starter as well as aircraft propeller. All Cyclone engines are fitted with a carburetor intake heater or carburetor in that on the P-1.

The specifications on the R-1750, as supplied by the manufacturer are as follows:

Type ..... radial air cooled  
Number of cylinders ..... 9  
Bore ..... 6 in.  
Stroke ..... 7 1/2 in.

Continued on page 1267





# The Bird Wing "Imperial"

Three Place Biplane Powered With an OX-5 Engine has a High Speed of 90 M.P.H. and Lands at 30 M.P.H.

R. T. McCRUM, chief engineer of the Bird Wing Commercial Aircraft Co., St. Joseph, Mo., is the designer of the Bird Wing "Imperial" biplane, which will shortly be put into production by that company. At the present time a number of these planes have already been completed, but, according to Mr. McCrum, production will not be started until the Department of Commerce has granted an approved type certificate. A small number of these planes are now being produced for use at the Bird Wing Flying School.

The Bird Wing Imperial is a conventional type, single bay biplane, powered with an OX-5 engine. The design incorporates a number of original features and it is stated to be of very sturdy construction, to withstand abuse by students. The wings are of conventional design with rounded square tips and built up ribs of spruce and mahogany plywood. The airtail is an Aeromarine 2. The internal drag wire bracing is at present of hard aluminum wire, and struts are made of mild steel. The compression members in the outer section and at the strong wing struts are of large size and heavy gauge steel tube. The control bracing is of steel, either Harbord or MacBryde. The leading edge is of formed spruce and the leading edge of plywood steel wire. The covering is Flightex, made up in envelope and slipped on the wings and tacked at the wing tips. The fuselage is of plywood sheath and the interior wing parts are protected by three coats of spar varnish. The upper wings are wired for navigation lights.

The ailerons, four in number, are of narrow chord, rectangular in shape, and are hinged onto the wings by vertical steel plates which pass through the fabric space with the lower control directly in the same spot, thus relieving the fair curve of any stress or strain other than the support of the covering. They are said to be extremely efficient and to respond perfectly and quickly. They are operated by push-pull tubes of steel and it is possible to house two

complete sets and still have the other set left in prime working order. The tail surfaces are constructed entirely of steel tubing and are externally braced by cables. The control horns are made of aluminum tubing welded to the struts. The elevators are controlled by two long



Front quarter view of the Bird Wing "Imperial" biplane placed 35 in. apart, keeping the control wires out of the way when on the landing on the ground. The tube is large in size and of the heaviest type.

The fuselage is constructed entirely of steel tube, with the ailerons, four in number, are of narrow chord, rectangular in shape, and are hinged onto the wings by vertical steel plates which pass through the fabric space with the lower control directly in the same spot, thus relieving the fair curve of any stress or strain other than the support of the covering. They are said to be extremely efficient and to respond perfectly and quickly. They are operated by push-pull tubes of steel and it is possible to house two

Continued on page 3850



Front view of the Bird Wing "Imperial" powered with an OX-5 engine

# Aeronautical Industries Inc.

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AERONAUTICAL INDUSTRIES, Inc., has been formed under the laws of Delaware to provide the American public with an opportunity for making a cross-section investment in the aeronautical industry.

A group of industrial and financial experts will select the projects favored by the Corporation from the list of this kind, a variety of domestic and foreign companies engaged in the different branches of the industry, including the manufacture of airplanes, engines, airframes, and other aircraft.

A group of industrial and financial experts will select the projects favored by the Corporation from the list of this kind, a variety of domestic and foreign companies engaged in the different branches of the industry, including the manufacture of airplanes, engines, airframes, and other aircraft.



Lester D. Gardner

A complete list of the holdings of the Corporation will be available to the public at the publication. It is not anticipated that the corporation will be held by the public at the time of the publication.

As stated, the corporation will be held by the corporation, which is an industry which is putting on surplus, is a step just back into the business. It is believed by the Corporation, however, that the appreciation in the market price of the shares will be in direct proportion to the growth and development of the industry itself.

The stock is to be placed in a Voting Trust for five years, the which time the Voting Trust Certificate will be returned for the actual stock carrying full voting rights, it being the purpose of the Trust to administer the affairs of the corporation only during the initial period of its development. None of the stock of the company has been given to the corporation or others, but a portion of the Treasury has been placed to the benefit of those higher than the usual offering price to the public and will be subsequently offered in accordance with the capital requirements of the Corporation.

Lester D. Gardner, financial publisher of AVIATION, is president. The Board of Directors includes the following: C. Donald Brown, partner Spencer Treask & Co.; Samuel S. Bailey, general manager Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of America; Benjamin F. Curtis, general manager Fox-Pitkin Foreign Investment Trust; Capt. Charles E. Gifford, C. E. N., representative of New York Harbor, formerly trustee Bergen Paper Co.; Lester D. Gardner, president of the Corporation; Alexander Klemm, Professor of Aeronautics, N. Y. University; Gerald M. Leach, partner N. W.

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Mr. Gardner has for many years been actively connected with aeronautics. He founded AVIATION Magazine in 1918 and was its publisher until 1928. He also edited the AVIATION Journal, which was an American Aeronautics and the American Aeronautical Directory. He served military service during the World War as a lieutenant, Air Service, and served as a major on the Control Board of the Division of Military Aeronautics. In 1926 Major Gardner flew 25,000 ft. over the regular air line of Europe, Asia and Africa, a record which still stands. In 1927 he was appointed by the Secretary of War as delegate of the United States to the Aviation Congress held in Rome. Major Gardner is not only a member of leading American aeronautical organizations, but is the only person who holds membership partly in the Royal Aero Club of Great Britain, the Aero Club of France, the Aero Club of Germany, and the International League of Aviators.

The company offered 100,000 shares of voting trust certificates for sale to the public on June 5 and by 10 A. M. the brokers, W. W. Townsend & Co. at 3 Wall Street, New York, announced that subscriptions had been received for an amount in excess of the offering.

Each share offered at \$20.00 carries a detachable warrant, entitling the holder to purchase one share of treasury stock at \$20.00 a share to and including April 28, 1935.

Mr. Gardner, president of the company, is a statement regarding the plans and policy of the company, said:

"Our objective purpose is to provide airplane builders, airline operators, and others in the aeronautical industry with from \$10,000,000 to \$25,000,000 for expansion of their companies. Four times as many airplanes will be built this year as in 1927. This means that engines and equipment will have to be produced in proportionate numbers. Airports are increasing every month, with millions of dollars of serious

Continued on page 3858



R. F. Costle





## "Southern Cross" Used Micarta Propellers On Recent 7,800 Mi. Oakland-Sydney Flight

THE TRI-ENGINEED Fokker plane "Southern Cross", which recently completed its successful trans-Pacific flight from San Francisco to Sydney, Australia, was equipped with Micarta propellers manufactured by the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Co. Reports from members of the plane's crew state that the propellers performed perfectly throughout the 8,000 trying miles of flying over water.

The Southern Cross is the second tri-engine Fokker plane equipped with Micarta propellers that has successfully completed the 8,000 mi. between San Francisco and the Hawaiian Islands. The first to accomplish this feat was the U. S. Army plane piloted by Lieutenant McMillan and Hauptberger. The engine monoplane "Albatross", which finished second in the solo race to Honolulu, also was fitted with a Micarta "prop".

Micarta propellers are manufactured in several sizes and are used on the following airplanes: Warhawk J-4; Whelan



The Fokker "Southern Cross" showing her three Micarta propellers.

and J-4B; Warhawk J-3; Wright E-3; Wright E-3; Curtiss O-5; Curtiss O-5; Hispano 150; Hispano 150; Ryan Sonnet 5; Hall Scott 6; and Ryan 150 hp.

A new feature of all Micarta propellers which gives them great durability under the most severe flying conditions, is metal tipping. These new metal tipped propellers have no costly painted rigid tips at Wright Field.

The basic material of Micarta is a specially woven cotton fabric impregnated with phenolic resin and consolidated under the constant application of heat and heavy pressure into a product of great mechanical strength. An article concerning the propeller appeared in the Aug. 5, 1927 issue of Aviation.

## To Test Four Cylinder Air Cooled "Dayton Bear" Engine in International F-17 Plane

OFFICIALS of the International Aircraft Corp., Cincinnati, have announced plans to test a newly perfected engine, the Dayton Bear, with a view to using the power plant in all F-17 Sparhawk fighters. The new engine has four-cylinder capacity of developing 150 hp. It is an model and now 160 lb. lighter, it is said, than the OX-5 type now used in the F-17.

The Dayton Bear is manufactured by the Dayton Aircraft Engine Co. of Dayton, O. It will be tested at the International place by Capt. L. H. McHenry of the Coast Airline, Newark, N. J., who is currently recently visiting representative of a other place for his company.

## Many Closely Contested Races Feature Oregon Aero Club's Portland Air Meet

UPWARDS OF 4000 persons stood out in a rain at the Port of Portland Airport recently to watch the events in the annual sponsored by the Aero Club of Oregon to raise funds for financing the visit of the National Air Team. It was the first air meet to be held on the field since it was shown open to general use.

Except in one event the meet was hotly contested. Over 30 planes, mostly from Seattle, Vancouver, and Portland were entered.

C. E. Smith, Seattle Flying Service, won the 20 mi. U.S. stock model plane race but the Philip Jackson trophy and 475 cash. Earl D. Russell, Bush Flying Service, Portland, was second. Bush flew Travel Air plane. Maj. A. Roberts, Seattle Army, was third in a Lambda-Page.

Donald E. Moore, Commercial Airways, Portland, took the 30 mi. race for the Volunteer trophy. The prize was the Airman Special Trophy. Frank Anderson, Seattle Flying Service, Portland, was second. Bush flew R. 22 radio monoplane.

First place in the dead stock heading to a mark west of Field Road, who brought his Enduro in within 11 ft. 7 in. of the mark. He was the Volunteer trophy. The prize was 450 cash. Walker E. Case in an American Eagle was second, 15 ft. 7 in., and Jack Randall, Bush Flying Service, third with an Eagle, 31 ft. 3 in.

The MacIntyre-Morris Aviation Co., Portland, was the relay race for stock model, OX-5 planes for a first prize of \$100. Philo Warr A. B. MacIntyre and A. W. Morris, Seattle Flying Service, were second, Bush Flying Service, third, and Ruckus Flying Service, fourth. Walker E. Case, in an American Eagle, won the starting contest for the Volunteer trophy and 400 cash. Earl Russell in a Travel Air was second, and Ted and Jack Ruckus, both in Wrens, were third and fourth, respectively.

The first-of-all for planes of 300 hp. or less was won by Jack Clowson, Advanced Patrol Corp., Portland. Russell was second and Moore, third. All four Travel Airs. Clowson was awarded the Harry K. Coffey Trophy.

Capt. Arthur E. Engle, commander of Peacock Field, Vancouver, Wash., was chairman of judges.

## Further Data Concerning the Equipment Of Trans-Pacific Fokker Southern Cross

THE FOLLOWING information concerning the equipment of the Fokker tri-engine Southern Cross has been supplied by our San Francisco correspondents.

The aircraft was special built by Spaulding Corporation of Detroit, and was equipped with Ruckus roller bearings and specially built Continental engine parts made by O. E. Goodrich Rubber Co. The landing gear was equipped with Ruckus shock absorber, a product of the Ruckus M. Co. of Berkeley, Cal. It was necessary, incidentally, to add extra runs to take care of the heavy load carried by the Southern Cross. The fuel lines were of flexible tubing. Pressure instruments were used throughout except for Walburn oil gauge valves and Walburn watch chronometers, which are made by the Walburn Watch Co. Among the navigational instruments were a Little boat compass and a Little boat sextant. Alvin Kaufman of San Francisco built and installed the radio set that kept the entire world constantly informed of the progress of the Southern Cross, and he enabled them to check their bearings. The three engines were Wright Whirlwinds and equipped with Bendix Magnos and B.G. Spark plugs.

## Over the Pacific.



with

## MICARTA Propellers

THE Southern Cross—in spanning the Pacific—completed the longest cross flight in the history of aviation and added four more names to the Hall of Fame—Capt. Kingsford Smith, Capt. Urry, Harry Lyons, and James Warner. The glory of these untried flyers is shared by the vital equipment which, in some extent at least, made these achievements possible. Part of this success can be attributed to their wise choice of equipment.

Micarta propellers already had proved their dependability. Three of the five planes that have made the hop from San Francisco to Hawaii and Micarta propellers. Among these planes was the star ship of the Southern Cross—the Fokker monoplane piloted by Lieut. McMillan and Hauptberger—and the Bruce monoplane piloted by Martin Jensen.

Micarta propellers—approved by pilots everywhere—have many advantages: light weight; freedom from vibration; quietness; immunity to damage from moisture, salt spray, or oil; adjustable pitch and high efficiency.

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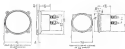
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### Navy Aero Bureau Tentatively Adopts New Standard Size for Aircraft Instruments

THE BUREAU of Aeronautics, Navy Department, has tentatively adopted a new standard size for aircraft instruments. All dimensions are approximately one inch smaller than the old standard, the old being 3 1/2 in. and the new one inch diameter 2 1/2 in. A comparison of the old and new standards may be made from the accompanying drawing in which both cases are shown to the same scale. The new instrument board size is about 49 per cent.



Showing how the old and new sizes compare.

While it is hoped to extend the new standard dimensions to include the altimeter and barometer, the only instruments already tested and approved are air speed indicators, which were supplied by the Pioneer Instrument Co., Brooklyn, N. Y., which cooperated with the Navy Department in this work.

Air speed indicators of the new size were publicly displayed for the first time at the Dayton Show in April, and the Pioneer company has recently announced that it is now prepared to supply these instruments for commercial use.



This new 6-5/8 in. Pioneer Airspeed Indicator. The illustration is a full size reproduction.

Standard ranges are 0-120, 0-160, 0-200, 0-240, and 0-300 m.p.h., 0-100 and 0-200 knots, and 0-250 and 0-400 k.p.h.

The reproduction of the new 6-1/2 in. Pioneer Air Speed Indicator is full size, showing clearly the ease with which the instrument may be read, in spite of the reduced size.

### Velo, Floco, and Menasco-Salmson Engines Are Scheduled for Certification Tests

THREE RADIAL air cooled engines are scheduled for jet engine tests under the Air Commerce Regulations at the Laboratory of the Bureau of Standards in the next two months. They are Velo two cylinders of Malles, Ill., Floco three cylinder of Los Angeles, and Menasco-Salmson four cylinder of Beverly Hills, Calif.

The Bureau recently has just completed tests of the Warner three cylinder of Detroit, the Kinner five cylinder of Glendale, Calif., the Gannett seven cylinder of Oakland, and the Stanley three cylinder of Holland, Mich.

It proved the Bureau runs its tests of the air cooled engines by mounting them on torque stands, attaching a suitably designed propeller to check the power and providing air ducts to cool the cylinders. As soon as the necessary equipment can be installed, these tests will be made with an electric dynamometer to check the power and on 50 hp. Warner to supply the high velocity air stream required to cool the engine.

Before the new engine is accepted for tests it must have been run by the manufacturer for at least 30 hrs. and a log of the run must be submitted with the engine. The department's present test requirements include three periods, a 30 hr. endurance test, 50 hr. run in 30 five hour periods, full throttle run to determine the power developed at speeds ranging from 75 to 150 per cent of normal speed and finally an actual service test of the engine in an airplane.

Each power plant is considered on its own merit and there are no standard requirements as to weight per horsepower, fuel consumption per horsepower hour, or oil consumption per horsepower hour. Good design, adequate material, good

workmanship, and reliable performance of the engine and its accessories are demanded. In accordance with Army and Navy practices, the endurance test consists of three periods, 45 hr., at rated speed and load and one period of five hours at 10 per cent overload.

Although the testing of noncommercial airplanes engine has only recently been undertaken, the automotive engine of the Bureau has been studying the performance of aircraft power plants for over 10 yrs. As early as 1913 an electric dynamometer was installed at the Bureau and tests were made on five Buell's airplane engines for the Signal Corps of the United States Army. By 1915 the addition of a 400 hp. dynamometer had provided for the laboratory testing of the most powerful aircraft engines then known, and torque stands were installed for running service and endurance tests of all sizes and types of engines. The first experimental Liberty engine was delivered at the Bureau on July 3, 1917, just 21 days after its design was approved, and was tested both on the dynamometer and on the torque stand. This engine is now in exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution.

### Jack Rose of Manner Service Takes First In Spokane-Yakima OX-5 Race Flying Wave

JACK ROSE, pilot with the Manner Flying Service, flew his Wave 16 to first place in the Spokane-Yakima OX-5 race recently. The flight of 150 mi. required 2 hr. and 30 min., as the four competitors from Spokane lacked heavy hardware. Ed Spurgeon, Spokane, Island Knight's pilot, flew his plane to second place, and Maurice McManis of Yakima took third in an Eaglehawk. Several planes from the national guard race in Spokane made the trip to and in celebration of the new Yakima Airport.

## Lindbergh again uses HASKELITE

HASKELITE, the blood aluminum plywood, was in the "Spirit of St. Louis." It is in the Ryan Broughman No. 69—Lindbergh's new plane.

It has shared in practically all the record-breaking flights of recent years.

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**PLYMETL**

ALCOA

## "Super-Mailwing" Biplane With Great Mail Capacity Being Built by Pitcairn Company

HAROLD F. PITCAIRN, president of Pitcairn Aviation, Inc., Philadelphia, has announced the completion of designs and the starting of construction on a larger model Pitcairn plane. It will be known as the "Super-Mailwing" and has been designed to meet the demand for mail planes with sufficient cargo capacity to carry the increasing air mail loads.

The mail compartment of the new plane will have nearly twice the cubic capacity of the present Mailwings. The first Mailwing was designed slightly more than a year ago, at a time when the volume of air mail was far less than at present. It was one of the first planes designed especially for carrying mail. Since that time, the Pitcairn Mailwing has been adopted for use on six national air mail routes.

The new plane will be similar in design to the present Mailwing. The wing area will be the same and a Wright Whirlwind J-3 engine will be the standard power plant in addition. The fuselage has been designed especially for a mail compartment of 40 cu. ft. instead of 21½, making room for the 500 lb. of mail the plane can easily carry.

The new plane will have a gross cubic capacity of 76 cu. ft. instead of the 56 cu. ft. capacity of the Pitcairn Mailwings. The net capacity also has been increased from 5½ to 14½ gal. However, one feature will be incorporated. The pilot's seat will be adjustable in height so that he can rise if for better visibility while landing or taking off, and lower at far protection from the wind while cruising. The tail steel in addition has been improved by substituting rubber compression discs for shock absorber cords, thereby reducing maintenance.

The landing gear, while similar to the split type used on the Mailwing, will be refined in details to reduce parasite

resistance and will be so designed that shock absorbers and brake wheels of well known manufacturers will be interchangeable.

The Pitcairn organization has announced that as a state out of the performance figures of the new plane will be laid out if it is tested in the air, but it is expected that even on the double value capacity the performance of the present Pitcairn Mailwing will be retained.

Despite the fact that the new plane will have nearly 1 cu. ft. more room for mail, and extra gasoline and oil capacity, the weight of the Super-Mailwing empty will be, it is believed, only 45 lb. heavier than the present Mailwing.

## Wisconsin's Second Commercial Airplane Tour Closes as 30 Planes Visit 22 Cities

THE SECOND commercial airplane tour of Wisconsin, sponsored by members of the Altona Clubnorth Post of the American Legion, took place the week of June 14-18. It was one of the most successful of tours, according to John H. Nishida, general chairman. Thirty planes visited 22 cities, bearing representatives of various commercial enterprises of the state of Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Illinois cities.

The journey started from the Milwaukee Airport Monday morning, June 14. The first returning Saturday, June 16, for a windy day at the Hotel Frothingham, Milwaukee. More than five hundred people attended the banquet.

The itinerary of the tour follows: Shokolevsky, Minsk; Oshkosh, Minnesota; Green Bay, Appleton, Portage, Stevens Point, Waunakee, Ray City, St. Paul, Mass.; Oronoco, Mead, Rochester, Minn.; La Crosse, Madison, Monroe, Beloit, Elkhart, Rockford, Ill.; Janesville, Kenosha, and Racine.

## Hartford and Waterbury Aero Clubs Tie For First in Hartford, Conn., Air Meet

AN AIR meet was held at Drusard Field, Hartford, Conn., on Friday under the auspices of the New England Aero-Club Societies, an organization of which Gen. John H. Doolittle is head. The meet was of a private nature, only planes owned by members of the association being eligible in the competition.

The Aero Club of Hartford tied for first honors with the Waterbury Light Plane Club. The others who took part were: Worcester Society for the Promotion of Aviation, Connecticut Flying Club, and the Flying Club of Waterbury, Mass.

The meet was under the impression of a committee including: Dr. James Farnett of the Yale Aeronautical Society, Andrew Harrell of the M.L.E. Flying Club, and James F. Winkler of the Worcester Society for the Promotion of Aviation.

Following the meet, a dinner was held at Hotel Broad, where addresses were given by Capt. Paul Haskins, Major George Chappelle, president of the Greater Brooklyn Flying Club and vice president of the American Waterbury Aero Club, Dr. Paul Landenthal, and Prince Henselbach. Captain Haskins, Dr. Landenthal, and Mr. Henselbach are representing the Metropolitan Aviation Club of Germany.

## National Airway Terminals Changes Name To "Continental Airway Terminals, Inc."

H. C. FERGUSON, general manager of National Airway Terminals, Inc., of 252 Madison Ave., New York, announces that the name of the company has been changed to Continental Airway Terminals, Inc. The change is necessitated by the

similarity of the initial letters—NAT—to those of the National Air Transport, Inc. Since aviation companies are many times referred to by initials, confusion arose.

## Production of New Quick Powered Biplane Is Begun by Swift Aircraft Co. of Wichita

FULL ORGANIZATION and plans of the Swift Aircraft Co. of Wichita are announced by officials of the company and production on a big scale has begun. Plans call for new line buildings, making five units to the plant with 24,000 sq. ft. of floor space and a production capacity of a plane a day.

After weeks of experimenting with the first model, a new plane biplane, said to have developed one of the fastest speeds in the commercial biplane class, 50 planes were started through the factory.

Together with the construction of the new buildings, plans were made for a good landing field on the company's property. North and south and east and west runways of 1,000 ft. each are being laid out.

Tests on the Swift plane were made by Howard Jones, former Army pilot. Though no time trials were made, Jones estimated that the Swift plane attained approximately 140 m.p.h. The plane is also said to have a low landing speed.

The craft is powered with a Quik six cylinder, 120 hp. converted LeRhône engine. It has a 26 ft. wing span and carries 30 gal. of gasoline in the upper wing. The fuselage is of all metal construction and painted a deep bronze, in contrast to the bright red wings of wood and fabric construction.

W. R. Griffin, chief operator, is president; Walt Anderson is vice president; Robert H. Hellerich is secretary, and V. G. Cobb has been named director.

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### Success of New Variable Pitch Propeller Indicated by British Company's Experiments

IN CHERTENHAM, England, the Gloster Aircraft Co., Ltd., has been experimenting for some time with a variable pitch propeller developed by H. S. Hile-Shaw and T. E. Beuchamp. The advantages of this variable pitch propeller are apparent, and a successful device of this kind has been the object of much correspondence and investigation. According to the Gloster Aircraft Co., the Hile-Shaw-Beuchamp propeller has successfully overcome the difficulties encountered, which were usually due to a misunderstanding of the magnitude of the forces required to effect a variation in pitch, or how to reduce the loads of the mechanism. It is claimed that the Gloster propeller does not increase the weight loads and is very simple in operation. It is stated that the pilot can set the gear by means of the control wheel so that the speed of the engine will remain constant regardless of the load, the blades of the propeller adjusting themselves automatically.

The power required for the work is derived from the engine and transmitted hydrodynamically to the propeller. Each blade is provided with a track arm connected to a fixed pivot in a hydrostatic cylinder. The piston divides the cylinder into two chambers and a pipe from each cylinder connects to a variable stroke pump driven by the engine and controlled by a mechanical governor also geared to the engine. A special feature of the pump is that the flow can be reversed by a considerable adjustment of the slider, hence when one of the chambers is under pressure, the other is under vacuum. At normal speeds the governor, through a link mechanism, sets the pump slider out of its normal position and there is no delivery from the pump. Should an increase of engine speed take place, then will exist an alteration of the governor pos-

ture, which correspondingly modifies the stroke of the pump, causing oil to be delivered to that side of the main cylinder which increases the pitch. The pitch increase is accompanied by an increase of propeller torque which slows down the engine speed to its normal value. A reduction in engine speed has the reverse effect. Thus any tendency of the engine to vary in speed is matched by a corresponding variation in pitch, the effect of which is to maintain a constant engine speed.

By adjusting the position of the floating link connecting the governor to the pump, the normal speed of the engine can be set at any desired value. This is easily carried out, since the link on the link is quite small in spite of the fact that a considerable pressure may exist in the pump. The hydrostatic arrangement in the cylinder so that excessive pressures will not be built up.

### Aeronautical Industries, Inc.

*Continued from page 1843*

equipment, are being considered. It is to meet these requirements that a group of experts in aeronautics, finance and management have founded this new company.

"Four important concerns brought to the public the first realization of the investment opportunities that existed in aviation. Henry Ford entered the field as an airplane builder and airline operator. This marked the turning point. Capital that had hitherto been idling, noticed that this industry that Ford had developed and found attractive deserved consideration. The Government decided to foster and regulate commercial aviation and under the direction of Secretary Hoover the Department of Commerce has created a new confidence in the safety of aircraft. The air

and the ground over to private operators of airplanes and a network of air mail lines was laid over the United States as a comprehensive and well planned system. And then came Lindbergh. What had been private became suddenly new air. The public that had been cautious and uncertain now clung to an enthusiastic and credulous group eagerly following every aircraft achievement. New York, Chamberlain, and a hundred others kept the public excited with one sensational triumph after another. But the public did not stop there. It wanted its plane wings and poured money into every conceivable aeronautical venture. Capitalists led the way and soon were followed by the smaller investor and speculator.

"To secure leading support, certain financial elements are necessary. Presently, a record of earnings over a period of years is a fundamental requisite. This requirement was impossible to meet by practically every airplane company, and expansion programs had to be financed privately. But the public took matters into its own hands and without the usual facility of having investment vouchers for its leaders, constructed a speculative investment magazine that has been one of the outstanding phenomena in recent financial experience.

The offerings of sensational stocks are being made abroad, then, in a danger of history repeating itself and the opinion of thousands of investors being subjected to success or failure. In an industry so new to us, there is the almost difficulty in securing reliable information. Even when this is available, it requires experts with experience in the field of aeronautics to analyze and value the many factors that must be present to make a successful enterprise. The occasionally few experts who, through long experience, can detect weaknesses, distinguish between hopes and perfor-



Alexander Klemm

"During the past ten years the 'hotstock' trust idea has been applied in many fields. It has been almost entirely successful and brought great rewards to investors. The principle of diversification of investment assisted by experienced managers has been demonstrated as the soundest method of financial procedure. But it is too early yet to apply the failed operation of this idea to aviation. The specialists of the aeronautical industry have not had sufficient time to become 'seasoned'. The capital requirements for expansion

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OXs engines

**Advance Aircraft Company**  
Troy, Ohio

posed of Robert Robertson, chairman, and Fred A. Newman and P. Russell Horvath, was the outstanding figure behind the project.

### Philadelphia, Penna.

Taking his first airplane flight, Dr. C. A. Lough, master of the General Clinic of the United States in Cincinnati, was impressed that he devoted his next session to a description of the trip. Robert P. Hewitt piloted the plane.

The first meeting of the Aero Club of Pennsylvania, recently held at the Engineers Club, was addressed by Louis J. Kerr, director of the Philadelphia Navy Yard, co-pilot of the Kerr's new FN-12 on its recent record-breaking flight on January 18th. He told of the flight.

W. Lawrence LaPage, assistant in the vice president of the American Aviation, Inc., with headquarters here, mentioned the work that William J. Webb, a pulp-mechanic at Potomac Field, Willow Grove, Pa., for the past two years, has been sent to the Richard E. Byrd Flying Field at Fort Lee, Va., to construct his late James B. Reed, formerly a reserve pilot at Richmond.

Recent visitors at the Philadelphia Airport, Island Road below Twelfth Avenue, have included: Arch E. Maddox, of Trenton, who flew in with a new Waco 10 (OX 5), Pilot President of the Washington County Aero Club at Mechanicsville, Md.; also piloting a new Waco 10, and Lee Raper of Grand Wood, R. D., who flew in with a brand new 7 passenger in an OX-3 Redhawk. The Maddox and Aero Club planes recently were purchased from the Washington, Philadelphia Flying Service, local agents for Waco and Franklin planes.

It was also stated in news 50,000 for a Philadelphia in June flight, using a two-engine Sikorsky flying boat. Capt. Louis V. Embarger of 3033 North Broadway St., former Army pilot, in one of the boaters and will be in flight of the plane mentioned. Louis Arthur Givens, U.S.N., stationed at the Philadelphia Naval Air Station, has been mentioned as the second man of the event. He refuses to drop or affirm the report. A New York woman is said to be interested in the proposed flight not only as a barker but as a prospective passenger.

### Jackson, Mich.

Dr. L. P. Kendall

Raynolds Field, the new municipal airport, was opened in this city recently with obligatory exercises conducted at the base of a flagpole, the gift of Richard P. Smith Post, American Legion.

Wiley R. Raynolds, donor of the field, in his presentation speech said:

"Dedicating this property to the city of Jackson last December has an aviation field demonstrates my belief in Jackson, and my desire that Jackson may have one of the finest aviation fields in the state of Michigan."

Immediately after the dedicatory ceremony attention was turned on the two grass runways where more than a score of planes had lined up for an aerial parade. On their return, after circling the city, skilled pilots kept 20,000 spectators "high-dry," with a whirl of stunts and clever maneuvering. The standing of Art Dyer of Lansing, Mich., Phil Twigg of Detroit, and Louis R. L. Schlesselman of Salisbury Field were featured. The latter flew a Curtiss Army pursuit plane.

Next in interest, from the spectators' point of view, was the dual wheel landing contest and the parachute jumps. Phil Twigg, of Detroit, was awarded first place in the first event for landing his Waco 9 plane 10 ft. from the finish mark. In the parachute jump, Dave McKenney of Bull Creek earned off first honors landing about 200 ft. from the designated mark.

Several of the pilots, especially "The Duke of Detroit," the "Waco Hurricane," a Ford all metal plane, and the late

Waco 9 and Dage-Lairt planes drew special attention. The latter plane, made in Lansing, staged an exhibition flight. This plane, with a 20 ft. wing spread, was piloted by Arthur E. Nauman of Lansing.

### Baltimore, Md.

By Ben Rade

The Chesapeake Aircraft Corp., operating at Logan Field airport, broke business. Thousands of passengers have at last been carried, and on Sundays more than 500 passengers are carried. A great many are turned away even though the planes operate continually. Due to the popularity of the service in Washington, over Annapolis, and Ocean City, Del., and the large demand of Chesapeake, a second Fairchild plane has been purchased and delivered.

The Chesapeake Aircraft Corp. has the agency in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia of Travel Air planes and in Maryland of Fairchild planes. Four Travel Airs have recently been sold to the Potomac Air Service of Washington, and two to the Virginia Airways Co.

Mail aerial photography and mapping is also being done. Although aviation students are accepted, there are not as many enrolled as there could be, due to the policy of the corporation not to accept those who expect to become aviators and pilots, immediately after the course or those who have not enough money to complete the course.

What is thought to be a unique experiment has been started by The Hish, one of Baltimore's leading department stores. Aviation classes, in which the theory of flight and the principles of construction of airplanes are explained, are held in the store every Saturday morning. The Dept. Airm Club, not a club, is open to all boys between the ages of 12 and 18. Membership is free. Lectures are given weekly by Maj. William D. Tipton, commandant of the Air Corps of the National National Guard, and other personnel, aviators.

The Air Corps at Washington has allowed the use of over 200 flies on different planes of the subject of aviation. It is a fact that has been instantaneous and already about 200 boys attend the meetings weekly while many more are enrolled.

A Fairchild Cuban plane of the Chesapeake Aircraft Corp. has been chartered by the United States Customs Machine Co. of New York for a 2,000 mi. tour of inspection of the beach areas in the South and Middle West. Stops are to be made at Greensboro, N. C.; Atlanta, N. C.; Oklahoma, Dallas and other cities in Oklahoma, Kansas, and Ohio.

W. H. North and Wayne Randall of New York and C. H. Brevard of New York and Baltimore, representatives of the corporation were passengers. Maj. William D. Tipton, general manager of the Chesapeake Aircraft Corp., was pilot.

### Farmington, N.Y.

By E. C. Sampson

A new "Whirlwind" engine Waco 10 was recently flown to Farmington from the factory at Troy, O., by John P. Wood. The engine was sent to the factory with complete set of drawings and will be entered by Mr. Wood at the Northern Avenue at Waco in the National Air Tour and in the New York-Los Angeles Derby. The Waco 10 was sent here to be in such of these events last year and is expected to be in the money this year as well.

A new Ryan Brougham has been delivered to a group of Rich's business men, incorporated as Associated Aviators, Inc. This plane will be used for business trips and at other times in recreational cross country work. The summer camp at Rich's Camp is only a short distance from Waco and is held here in the air. The company has a number of planes in a hangar and field land lights at Farmington. The improvements are being completed and it is long as in progress for day or night flying.

Through the concerted efforts of the Wacoan Chamber of Commerce and the Wacoan Valley Electric Co. it is expected to start on Rich-McIntosh drive and one-half



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Although the field is not the necessary 2,000 ft. square, it is believed that it will be an easy matter to obtain the additional ground needed.

**Hartstorn, N. Y.**

By Edwin J. Furber

At a recent meeting of the city council all representatives of \$10,000 was adopted for the purchase of 180 acres in the Foster Road about six miles west of the city, for a municipal airport. Although this year's appropriation covers no improvements, another year will see runways straightened and possibly longer erected. The field is on a sloping hill and surrounded with the city by late Frederick H. Taylor, who conducts a local air service, will have been long to the new field and the 180 acres on buildings in the city will be needed to make way for the airport.

Three Curtiss Falcons were flown here by National Guard officers Capt. L. G. Haves, Lieut. R. P. Apple, J. F. Ward, and Paul Motors, and Lieut. M. L. K. of the Army air service. They carried Senator Grosvenor Wolfe and Mr. Peter Hilly, who are conducting a survey of the airport in the state, preparatory to establishing an air mail service. Waterbury is noted for being on the way to Canada and its newly purchased field was highly approved of by the visiting officers.

Frederick H. Taylor recently flew his new Stinson airplane here from Detroit where the delivery was held up pending the arrival of an engine. Accompanying Taylor besides his mechanic, Archer Lowery, was Harold Dodge, chairman of the local committee on aviation. This makes Taylor's second Stinson plane, a biplane having been purchased last year.

**St. Louis, Mo.**

By R. L. Alexander

The first new production plane that was made in the house at Lambert-St. Louis Field—O. E. Scott's Travel Air—was being flown back to Wichita by today and landed in on a new runway. The old plane, on which Harold H. Bailey, chairman of the board of the Chamber of Commerce, has an interest, of the first to be manufactured by the Travel Air company and was awarded the dignity of a name, "Maiden Wichita."

Scott, who is field manager, says the plane has been flown 1400 hr. which would give it a total of about 115,000 hr. Nevertheless it is still in good shape and has been in service continuously.

One Robertson, chief instructor for Robertson Flying School, has been a frequent passenger on the air mail route during the past several weeks and rumor has it that he is being groomed for a job as mail pilot. He has had more than 2,000 hr. in the air.

Parker Airlines has 96 active students, the largest class of student flown in the St. Louis district. Seven instructors are being sent to the St. Louis field.

Frank Wiggin, one of the instructors, at the moment at the Carnegie school would like for landing a barn-airplane and two passengers at Ponca City, Okla., in 1932. It was a test for the Ames school here.

**Spokane, Wash.**

By E. H. Hines

Negotiations for purchase of 90 lots, adjoining the Spokane Airport, where the 1932 Western Air Show was conducted, have been completed by the city commissioners.

The new land will be utilized for a dual purpose in the city. It will provide space for hangars and keep the city of the field proper and will afford further safeguards in the city's water supply which comes from a springmaster in the mountains of the field. The lots bought lie to the north and west of the field proper.

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